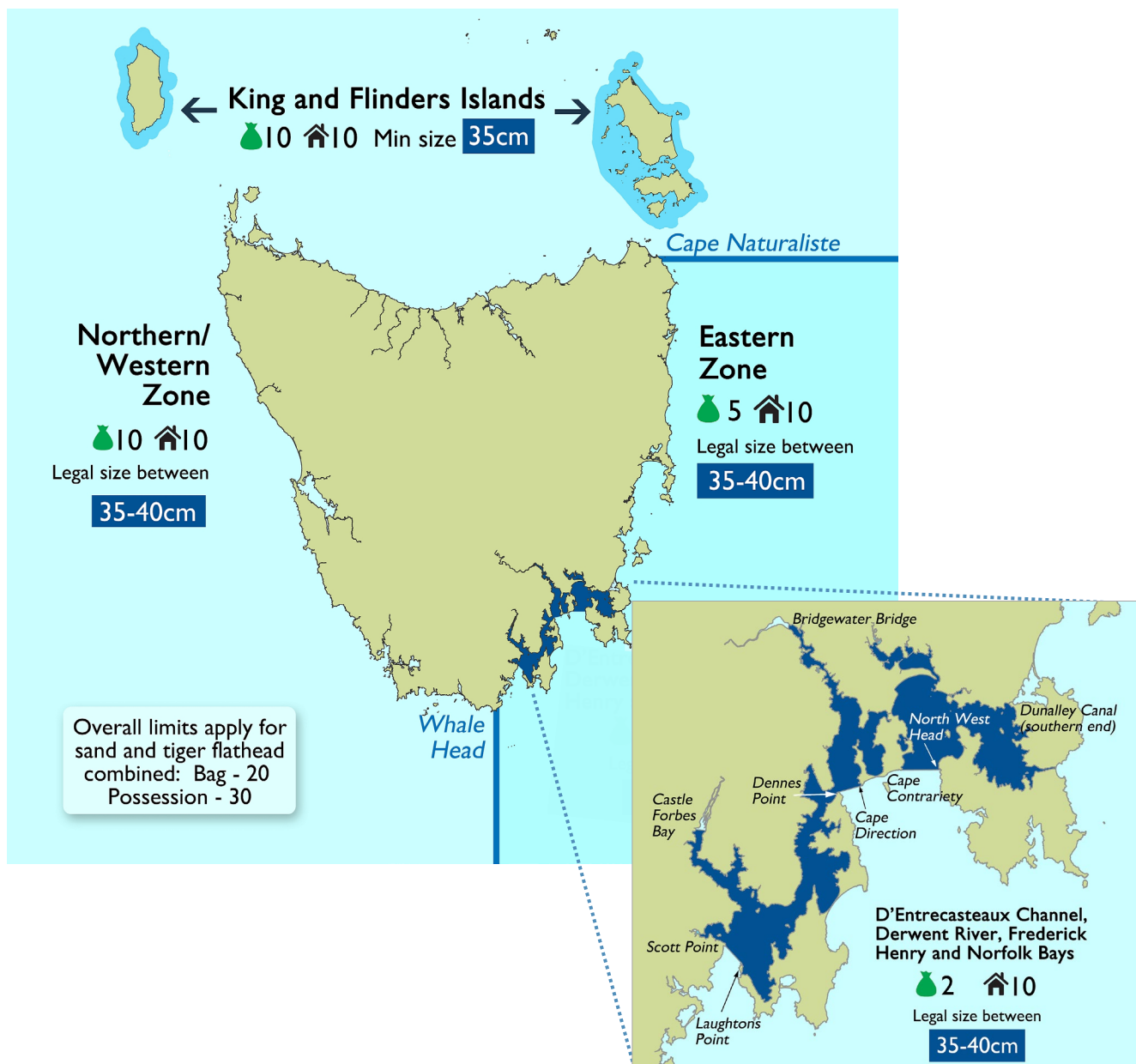


Scalefish Fishery Rules Review

Flathead rule changes apply from 1 November 2023.

Sand flathead – recreational bag 🐟 and possession 🏠 limits



New sand flathead rules for recreational fishers

Size limits	All waters except King and Flinders Islands: Minimum size 35cm , maximum size 40cm King and Flinders Islands: Minimum size 35cm , no maximum size
Bag and possession limits	D'Entrecasteaux Channel, Derwent River, Frederick Henry and Norfolk Bays: Bag – 2 , Possession – 10 Eastern Zone: Bag – 5 , Possession – 10 Northern/Western Zone, and King and Flinders Islands: Bag – 10 , Possession – 10 <i>*Overall limits apply for sand and tiger flathead combined: Bag – 20, Possession - 30</i>

New sand flathead rules for commercial fishers

Sand flathead	All state waters closed to commercial fishing for sand flathead by any method.
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Rules modified or withdrawn in response to feedback

Sand flathead recreational catch regions and limits	Regional catch limits were changed in response to feedback. A consistent slot limit across mainland Tasmania was adopted to reduce complexity for fishers.
Commercial fishing for sand flathead	Modified due to the strength of submissions, the critical importance of stock rebuilding efforts and in recognition of the management applied to the recreational fishery.
Landing flathead	Withdrawn due to concern about potential excessive fish waste at landing sites.

Slot limits – minimum and maximum sizes

Maximum size limits for sand flathead have been introduced for all state waters except King and Flinders Islands. You cannot take fish larger than the maximum size limit.

This rule has been introduced to protect larger, faster growing fish so they can breed more and better contribute to stock recovery. A minimum and maximum size limit is known as a slot limit, because you can only take fish that fall within the specific 'slot' size (inclusive).

Overall catch limits and tiger flathead

Overall bag and possession limits apply for tiger and sand flathead combined (bag limit 20 and possession limit 30).

Tiger flathead stocks are sustainable and the size limit remains at 32cm.

More information

For more information go to: fishing.tas.gov.au/scalefish-review

